

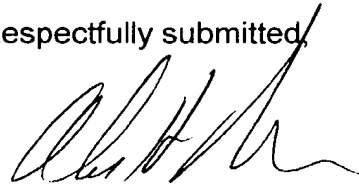
Remarks

Filed concurrently herewith is a drawing amendment in which Fig. 6 is amended to overcome the Office's objection to the drawings (a courtesy copy of the drawing amendment is enclosed for the Examiner). No new matter is added by the drawing amendment. Also enclosed is a copy of the formal drawings filed on May 3, 1999 which was inadvertently damaged by the Office. It is respectfully submitted that the copy is a true and accurate copy of that filed on May 3, 1999.

Applicant has cancelled all rejected claims, but has done so without prejudice to the patentability of such claims. All pending claims (i.e., claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 23-27) stand as allowed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant requests the Office to enter a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 (previously amended). A system comprising:

an input coaxial cable comprising an inner conductor and an outer shield, the inner conductor of the input coaxial cable having opposite first and second inner conductor ends, the outer shield of the input coaxial cable having opposite first and second outer shield ends;

an output coaxial cable comprising an inner conductor and an outer shield, the inner conductor of the output coaxial cable having opposite first and second inner conductor ends, the outer shield of the output coaxial cable having opposite first and second outer shield ends;

a ground block comprising an electrical connector electrically coupling the second inner conductor end of the input coaxial cable to the first inner conductor end of the output coaxial cable and electrically coupling the second outer shield end of the input coaxial cable to the first outer shield end of the output coaxial cable;

a ferrite form;

a ground reference source; and

a grounding conductor having first and second grounding conductor ends, the grounding conductor being wound about or through the ferrite form thereby creating a choke in series between the first grounding conductor end and the second grounding conductor end, the first grounding conductor end being electrically coupled to the ground block in a manner such that the first grounding conductor end is electrically

coupled to the second outer shield end of the input coaxial cable and electrically coupled to the first outer shield end of the output coaxial cable, the second grounding conductor end being electrically coupled to the ground reference source.

2 (previously amended). The system of Claim 1 wherein:
the input and output coaxial cables comprise parts of a coaxial network;
the ferrite form and the grounding conductor comprise parts of an RF filter,
the grounding conductor being configured to function as a ground for the coaxial network and to attenuate RF interference.

4 (previously amended). The system of Claim 2 wherein the RF filter attenuates RF signals in a frequency band from approximately 5 MHz to approximately 42 MHz.

5 (previously amended). The system of Claim 2 wherein the ferrite form is constructed of type 77 ferrite material.

6 (previously amended). The system of Claim 5 wherein the grounding conductor is constructed of at least 14 gauge copper wire.

13-21 (cancelled).

23 (previously presented). The system of claim 1 wherein the electrical connector of the ground block comprises an inner conductor coupling and an outer shield coupling, the inner conductor coupling electrically coupling the second inner conductor end of the input coaxial cable and the first inner conductor end of the output coaxial cable, the outer shield coupling electrically coupling the second outer shield end of the input coaxial cable and the first outer shield end of the output coaxial cable.

24 (previously presented). The system of claim 1 further comprising an input male coaxial cable connector and an output male coaxial connector, the second ends of the input coaxial cable being attached to the input male coaxial cable connector, the first ends of the output coaxial cable being attached to the output male coaxial cable connector, and wherein the ground block comprises an input female receptacle and an output female receptacle, the input female receptacle being in mating engagement with the input male coaxial cable connector, the output female receptacle being in mating engagement with the output male coaxial cable connector.

25 (previously presented). A filter for reducing RF interference on a coaxial network, the filter comprising:

a ferrite form;

a grounding conductor having first and second ends, the conductor being wound about or through the ferrite form thereby creating a choke in series between the first conductor end and the second conductor end; and

a terminal coupler provided at one of the conductor ends for electrically coupling the choke between a coaxial network ground block and a ground reference source, the terminal coupler comprising a threaded receptacle for receiving a threaded bolt, first and second apertures in the threaded receptacle adapted to receive the first conductor end and a ground wire from the ground reference source and a threaded bolt screw threaded into the threaded receptacle configured to hold the first conductor end and the ground wire in the first and second apertures;

the grounding conductor being configured to function as a ground for the coaxial network and to attenuate the RF interference.

26 (previously presented). A system comprising:

a coaxial network comprising a television and a coaxial cable operatively coupled to the television, the coaxial cable having an inner conductor and an outer shield, the coaxial cable being adapted for providing a television signal to the television;

a ground reference source;

a filter for reducing RF interference on the coaxial network, the filter comprising a ferrite form and a grounding conductor, the grounding conductor having first and second grounding conductor ends, the grounding conductor being wound about or through the ferrite form thereby creating a choke in series between the first grounding conductor end and the second grounding conductor end, the first grounding conductor end being electrically coupled to the outer shield of the coaxial cable, the second grounding conductor end being electrically coupled to the ground reference source.

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27 (cancelled).